

MINUTES ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Greenville, NC
June 9, 2003

The Greenville City Council met in a regular meeting on the above date at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, third floor of the Municipal Building, with Mayor Robert D. Parrott presiding. The meeting was called to order, followed by the invocation by Mayor Parrott and the pledge allegiance to the flag. The following were present.

Mayor Robert D. Parrott
Mayor Pro-Tem Ric Miller
Council Member Mildred A. Council
Council Member Ray Craft
Council Member Pat Dunn
Council Member Rose H. Glover
Council Member Chip Little
Marvin W. Davis, City Manager
Wanda T. Elks, City Clerk
David A. Holec, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Council Member Council and seconded by Council Member Little to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Council Member Craft to approve all the items under the consent agenda as listed below. Motion carried unanimously.

- (1) Minutes of the April 28, May 5, and May 8, 2003 City Council meetings
- (2) Consideration of various tax refunds

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hendrix and Dail, Inc.	Taxes assessed on 132 vehicles	\$14,221.13
Andrea Dionne Langrish	Vehicle double charged	\$ 126.27
MMCA Lease Ltd.	Prorate taxes on vehicle	\$ 113.94
- (3) Ordinance modifying hours of existing "no parking" zones on portions of East Eighth Street and Forbes Street (Ordinance No. 03-45)

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FY 2003-04 BUDGETS

City Manager Davis informed the Council that the proposed balanced budget for FY 2003-04 responds to the priorities set by City Council at the 2003 planning session and previous planning sessions. It also recognizes the needs of a growing City. The staff is always looking at economies and efficiencies to provide the best possible service for the least expensive cost.

City Manager Davis explained that the City has five financial challenges to overcome, one being that this is the fourth year of flood recovery. Flood recovery costs have been substantial. Also, the national, state and local economy has been in an economic downturn. There has been financial adverse impact on the City because of State shortfalls. There is also declining financial factors from previous years. Another factor to overcome is responding to the financial factors associated with growth. Growth is good for the economy and citizens, but it puts additional demands on capital outlay. There has been discussion of the Council about various levels of service that relate to priorities for service. This budget has an increased emphasis on public safety. It addresses required mandates of federal and state governments—stormwater, etc. and provides limited capital improvements that are necessary for a growing city. There is also a need for additional employees. There were 54 requests for new positions from various departments. It is recommended that six firefighters be funded through the county to service the EMS district. Nine police officer positions are recommended with a two cents tax increase to pay for them. They are to be in regular patrol and a special unit that works together in a concentrated area to solve problems. A fraud investigator is also included. Also included in the proposed 2003-2004 budget are recommendations of the joint City/Greenville Utilities Commission Pay and Compensation Committee, which include a 1.6% market adjustment for employees, which is what the state anticipated giving. There have been healthy discussions about health insurance. It is a major difficulty with employers being able to provide the premiums and keep it intact. Health insurance is a retention tool. Health insurance renewals will go back to the joint committee for further discussion. In the operating expenditures, they are flat. They were \$7.6 million last year and are the same this year.

City Manager Davis stated that the proposed 2003-2004 budget has reductions in capital outlay, requested positions and operating requests. Staff has relied on lease purchasing totaling \$1.5 million. That is a good and reasonable thing to do given the low interest rate for borrowing funds. There is a slight increase in fees. The staff has worked to open a new cemetery and the fees will reflect more of the cost of that cemetery and what the market is doing now. There is also an increase in transit from 75 cents, which is the first increase in many years. Because of nature of cost and demands for streets and street construction, \$682,000 has been transferred from fund balance to meet those needs. Grants are also used to help meet the needs of the city. Proposed is a two cent tax increase to help fund the nine new police officers, car, equipment, etc, which will carry the tax rate from 61.5 to 63.5 cents per \$100 valuation. The City Council has accomplished many things. There will be additional demands, such as fire station number 6 where it needs to be in the eastern part of the city. There is a backlog of personnel requests and there is still a growing demand for personnel. Capital outlay needs are the cornerstone of a growing city. There are more than \$80 million in needs over the next five years. Many are doable. Staff has responded to the priorities that the City Council has established, including public safety and revitalization, and is always looking to see how different personnel can be moved around for things to be more efficient to make a dollar go further.

City Manager Davis concluded his presentation by summarizing the budget message from the proposed 2003-2004 budget.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Marvin W. Davis, City Manager

DATE: April 23, 2003

SUBJECT: FY 2003-04 Budget Summary

We give summary and detailed budget information in different types of formats to answer questions from Council members. The following presents summary information as to what is included in the City Manager's recommended budget and what is not included or reduced in the budget, in bullet point form. This information summary is as follows:

City Council

- Included - Year contract with Ferguson Group - \$90,000
- Included - Board of Elections - \$45,000

Fire Rescue

- Eliminated - Revenues from rescue runs in Pitt County EMS district - \$206,172
- Included - Revenues requested from Pitt County for servicing County EMS district - \$356,172
- Included - 6 new firefighter positions for EMS at station # 5
- Included - New EMS unit at Station # 5 funded by lease purchase
- Included - A replacement EMS unit funded through lease purchase
- Eliminated - Requested new positions; 12 firefighters for Station #6, 2 fire prevention positions, and 1 EMS position
- Not Included - Design for Station # 6 and limited training facilities behind it – anticipated to be budgeted later in the year when design proposals are received – reimbursed later when buildings financed
- Considerably Reduced - Uniforms
- Considerably Reduced – Supplies and materials
- Included - Matching grant funds for Homeland Security Grant - \$40,500

Police

- Included - Funds for the joint drug task force
- Eliminated - Crime Analyst position
- Included - Position in IT for a police technology person to better address the changing technology needs of the Police Department

- Eliminated - Public Affairs Coordinator position
- Included - Uniformed Crime Prevention Officer, printed and other materials for increased crime prevention
- Substantially Reduced - Requested number of laptop computers for more officers with individual laptop computers – existing laptops upgraded and slight expansion
- Included - 14 replacement vehicles financed through lease purchase
- Substantially Reduced - Training
- Substantially Reduced – Supplies and materials
- Included - With new resources, 4 patrol officers as a unit concentrating and moving to different parts of the City to address problems; 4 uniformed officers added to patrol to service a growing city; 1 fraud investigator; uniforms, radios, equipment, etc. for new officers; 7 vehicles for these officers funded through lease purchase - \$562,604

Technology

- Eliminated – Requested new positions in GIS, Web, Database and Support
- Included - Upgrade for computer mainframe - \$50,000
- Substantially Reduced - GIS development funds
- Included - Upgrade citywide computer networks
- Eliminated - Web development funds
- Included - Telephony over IP analysis
- Included – Keyfile software imaging system replacement for Police Department - \$65,000
- Substantially Reduced - Requested number of Police laptop computers funding for expanding number of officers with laptops - existing laptop upgraded and slight expansion - \$98,000
- Reduced - Computer requests for PC 's and technology applications from Departments requests – funded -\$422,000

Public Works

- Included - Stormwater as a separate utility fund
- Included - Transfer to stormwater utility fund from Powell Bill fund, the dollars previously devoted to work on stormwater/drainage as recommended by the Stormwater Advisory Committee - \$535,699
- Included - Planned positions in stormwater utility fund
- Eliminated - Requested new positions in the General Fund for refuse collectors, equipment operators and building inspector
- Included - 4 replacement refuse equipment pieces funded through lease purchase – \$465,153
- Powell Bill- Reduced-State Powell bill revenues projected down 7 %
- Included -Use of \$668,321 of fund balance appropriated
- Reduced - Street paving to \$470,000
- Included - Terminus street construction in buyout areas adjacent to the Tar River
- Included - Limited intersection improvements

- Included - Revenue from State for maintenance of state signals on computerized traffic system
- Included - Transfer from General Fund to Transit for bus system \$195,633
- Included - Grant funds for thoroughfare analysis
- Included - Grant funds for Greenway plan update
- Included - Funds to mow and maintain flood acquisition property-\$60,000

Recreation and Parks

- Eliminated – Requested new positions of equipment operator and maintenance position
- Substantially Reduced – Part-time help
- Not Included - Design for bulkhead maintenance and repairs anticipated to be budgeted later in the year when design proposals are received - reimbursed later when project finalized
- Included – Painting Eppes and Elm Street Gym
- Included – Park playground equipment replacement

Planning and Community Development

- Included - Funds to print the updated comprehensive plan after adoption
- Eliminated - New positions request of Economic Development and Planner I
- Included- Grant match for redevelopment grants-\$10,000
- Included - Preparation of the redevelopment plan - \$125,000
- Included – Funds for demolition and cutting of overgrown lots - \$80,000
- Included - Downtown facade grants
- Included – Streetscape improvements - \$50,000

City Clerk, City Attorney, City Manager

- Eliminated - Capital funds for cablecast equipment
- Transferred - Police Attorney to City Attorney's budget
- Reduced - Advertising cost for the City Page
- Included - Printing costs for Citizen's Handbook and other publications

Financial Services

- Included – Contract fee for Pitt County tax collections
- Eliminated - Requested new positions of Accounting Tech II, Financial Analyst and Clerk
- Eliminated - Service fee study

Capital Improvements

- Included - Funds to Capital Reserve for the 10th Street Connector - \$291,000
- Included – Roof replacement for Carver Library and Gardner Training Center
- Included – Scheduled rotation resurfacing of existing tennis courts

Overall budget

- Increased - Lease purchasing financing was used more than last year due to present favorable interest rates for capital equipment by \$533,272
- Reduced - Overall operating costs of all Departments
- Reduced – Sheppard Memorial Library request to \$857,402
- Included - Market and merit adjustment as recommended by joint City/GUC Committee and Boards
- Included - Anticipated hospitalization costs increase
- Ad Valorem Taxes - Projected growth of 2.6% and 2¢ for increased police officer positions, equipment and vehicles
- Retail Sales – 2 % growth over current year projections
- Cemetery Lots and Grave Openings – Increased \$450 to \$550 and \$350 to \$400

/jat

cc: Department Heads

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Mr. Malcolm Green, General Manager of Greenville Utilities presented the proposed balanced FY 2003-2004 Greenville Utilities Commission budget.

Electric Fund

Mr. Green explained that of the \$138,217,045 expenditures in the Electric Fund, \$109,912,000 will be used to buy electricity. On January a three percent increase in wholesale power went into effect, which did not get passed on to the customers. A 3.4 percent increase is proposed for FY 2003-2004 budget year.

Water Fund

Mr. Green stated that no water rate increases are being proposed for FY 2003-2004. Greenville Utilities is the only water supplier in Pitt County that doesn't get 100% of its water from wells. Even though they have the full debt service of the water treatment plant, they have the growth of the plant and the ability to do off-system sales to allow them to not have rate increases. The budget for the Water Fund is \$10,850,950.

Sewer Fund

Mr. Green stated that no sewer rate increases are being proposed for FY 2003-2004. The proposed budget for the Sewer Fund is \$11,447,966.

Gas Fund

Mr. Green stated that no gas increase is projected for the Gas Fund. The turnover from this fund to the City is \$766,744 of the \$22,019,132 proposed budget. Whatever the cost of gas is is passed through to the consumer, which creates a short-term impact on the budget. There are two programs that people can participate in—one locks in gas price for the entire winter so people will know what the rate is and the other program caps the cost so that it can go down but cannot be increased above the cap.

General Manager Green stated that there are five new positions being proposed in the FY 2003-2004 budget--Water Treatment Plan Laboratory Technician, Engineering Coordinator for Electric, Meter Technician, GIS Coordinator, and Support Specialist in IT. The proposed budget is a lean budget.

Mayor Parrott declared the public hearing open and solicited comments from the audience.

Ms. Diane Kulik, who is in charge of Neighborhood Watch and the Lynndale Neighborhood Association, stated that she supports the increase in Fire/Rescue and police officers. They provide the most basic services to the citizens, who deserve safety and well-being. This is a means to increase the public safety positions. The City needs to work toward a lower crime rate. Ms. Kulik concluded by stating that she totally supports the drug task force and the tax increase.

Ms. Donna Whitley explained how her family has been in Pitt County for 200 years and her husband has been a firefighter for 25 years. The City must continue to have visions and dreams. The Council is faced with taxing times and a sluggish economy. The concept of no new taxes seems strange because inflation causes the City to have to pay more for things than last year. If Greenville wants to be a strong economic center, appropriate steps need to be taken. An increase in property tax of \$20 for a \$100,000 house is not a significant increase. It is more cost effective to hire employees than to re-train new employees. The Council needs to be a good steward of the taxpayers' money, but it doesn't make sense to cut the health benefits of employees. More needs to be done for the employees to show that they are appreciated. If the City Council plans to pay \$95,000 for a lobbyist, \$125,000 for downtown revitalization, etc., then surely it can balance the budget without tampering with health insurance of the employees. She asked the Council to focus on people and not to balance the budget by punishing the people who are assuring that the services get done. She concluded by asking the Council to vote for a tax increase.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was declared closed.

Mayor Parrott stated that he feels the budget can be balanced without hurting the employees. It is important to look at the budget from a long-term standpoint. With the economic situation the City has been in during the last several years, many citizens living on a fixed income, increasing electric rates, and the implementation of stormwater fees, this is not the year to raise taxes. Last year, health costs increased by 15 percent, and this year there has been a projected 17 percent increase. The City has a very good insurance program. Retail sales tax revenue has been projected very conservatively.

Mayor Parrott suggested balancing the FY 2003-2004 budget without a tax increase by reducing the amount allocated for health insurance premiums by \$300,000, increasing sales tax revenues by \$200,000 and taking \$62,604 from the fund balance to make up the \$562,604 shortfall.

After discussion about the new mandated stormwater fee and increased insurance costs, it was the consensus of the Council that the joint City/Greenville Utilities Commission Pay and Benefits Plan Subcommittee may need to look at benefits and how the two entities can still be competitive in the market place and how the employee benefits can conform to the budget. It was decided that negotiations with the insurance carrier need to take place in order to get the absolute best cost.

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Council Member Glover to balance the FY 2003-2004 budget without a tax increase by reducing the amount allocated for health insurance premiums by \$300,000, increasing sales tax revenues by \$200,000 and taking \$62,604 from fund balance. If the estimate is not accurate for health insurance and sales tax, a budget amendment will be done. Motion carried with a vote of 5:1. Mayor Pro-Tem Miller and Council Members Dunn, Glover, Craft and Little voted in favor of the motion. Council Member Council voted in opposition, stating that she supported the addition of the police officers because she wants to see if it is going to be safer.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS CONSOLIDATED PLAN; APPROVAL OF THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN; AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOAN COMMITTEE THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND TO ESTABLISH FAIR MARKET VALUE

Mr. Andy Harris, Director of Planning and Community Development, stated that the Community Development Division has identified goals and objectives for the five-year consolidated plan, which states the community's needs and identifies a five-year strategy to address those needs. Contained within the consolidated plan is the more detailed annual plan for the upcoming 2003-04 CDBG and HOME programs. Also included in the plan is a brief description of each program, current housing activities information regarding the three-year consolidated plan, proposed activities, proposed schedule, and requested actions. An Annual Plan is submitted for each year included in the Consolidated Plan. The Annual Plan is a detailed account of activities to be undertaken as well as the funding allocation for the activities. The Consolidated Plan will cover fiscal year 2004 through 2005 and will include the Annual Plan for the 2003/04 fiscal year. Past activities have included rehabilitation of owner-occupied dwellings, the Bonner's Lane Small Streets Project, addressing concentrated needs on a small street basis within the target area of West Greenville, funding of nonprofits for brick and mortar projects, secondary mortgage assistance, acquisition and conversion of substandard properties for homeownership, and acquisition of flooded properties along Greene Street but within the neighborhood of East Meadowbrook.

Staff has worked diligently to identify local needs and efforts to address the needs. Preliminary priorities focus on a 45-block area within the neighborhoods of West Greenville. These areas include portions of the Cherry View, Perkins Town, Biltmore and Lincoln Park neighborhoods. Each area has experienced a great deal of deterioration and will require a concentrated effort to

curtail the decline. This is a long-term strategy that will involve a comprehensive program for the areas identified. This transition from scattered site efforts will result in the expenditure of Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership funds primarily in these areas. Justification for this approach is based upon the existing condition of these areas including housing conditions and calls for public service. Fourteen meetings have been held in the community to involve the residents in the process and to identify their needs and concepts. This program will involve the creation of an implementation plan and process for each of the identified areas over the next eight years inclusive of the goals and strategies associated with concentrated duties. The program will take about eight years to complete and will cost approximately \$13.8 million. The source(s) of approximately \$6 million of that is unidentified. It may come from grants, bond referendum, etc. This project will be a comprehensive coordinated program of assistance over a period of time. It will address housing rehabilitation, acquisition, demolition, dilapidated structures, relocation, new homes, infrastructure improvements, and a commercial node. After tonight's public hearing, the City Council will be asked to approve the consolidated plan. The first year of the program, staff will be working along Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and Albemarle Avenue. The hope is to maintain the neighborhood character of the area by retention of homeowners, while removing blighted conditions. Most of the work to be done the first year will be along Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, and there aren't many homeowners in that area, as 70% of the structures are rental. Staff would like to see at least a 20% increase in the number of homeowners. The costs for the first year are as follows:

The proposed funding for the first year project is \$979,000 from the current grant, \$550,000 from reallocation of Bonner's Lane Funds, for a total of \$1,529,000. There is \$435,415 of HOME resources. The activities for Greenville are as follows:

Activity	CDBG	HOME	TOTAL
Non-Profit Assistance	\$97,900		\$97,900
Concentrated Needs	\$1,056,515		\$1,056,515
Owner-Occupied Rehab	\$209,585	\$375,415*	\$585,000
Administration	\$165,000	\$60,000*	\$225,000
Total	\$1,529,000	\$435,415	\$1,964,415

Concentrated need includes activities such as acquisition, relocation, demolition, infrastructure improvements and landscaping within the identified areas.

*All HOME funds are considered and apportioned by the Pitt County HOME Consortium.

Mr. Harris explained how there will be additional meetings throughout the summer. Staff will continue to work with the neighborhood.

Mr. Harris explained the difference in the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Program by explaining how the CDBG is a comprehensive program of housing and community development assistance from HUD. It replaced many block grants from the past and gives flexibility to improve neighborhoods with demolition and acquisition. The HOME Program from HUD is only for housing programs. Houses cannot be built with CDBG funds.

Needs identified within the areas include:

- Housing rehabilitation of viable structures
- Acquisition of dilapidated structures
- Relocation
- Demolition of structures
- Recombination of substandard parcels
- New construction
- Down payment assistance to increase homeownership
- Rezoning to encourage economic development particularly in area 1
- Creation of neighborhood commercial nodes

The objective of the plan is to begin a program of activities that will result in the concentrated revitalization of portions of the Cherry View, Biltmore, Perkins Town, and Lincoln Park neighborhoods. The following is a list of the parameter and methodology of the plan

- Improve but maintain neighborhood character by:
- Retention (by current owners) and rehabilitation of as many owner-occupied units in the areas as possible.
- Remove blighting structures and land uses.
- Redevelop acquired properties for affordable owner-occupied and rental housing and creation of a neighborhood commercial node with positive services for the community.
- Redevelopment must complement and protect existing homeowners in the neighborhood.
- Make improvements to public facilities that will complement redevelopment efforts.
- Create community focus nodes.
- Provide for ways to work with the private sector to leverage private funds and will assist with the efforts or revitalization.
- Provide extensive code enforcement measures to insure changes
- Remove undesirable and dilapidated uses
- Identify a preliminary strategy that will prioritize areas for work
- Identify activities and land uses that will be undertaken in the areas.
- Provide for community involvement annually in the development of annual activities.
- Assess the program regularly for necessary readjustments to activities and programs.
- Network with other providers for creation of services network for residents of the area.

These activities are suggested and are prioritized within the Consolidated Plan spanning the next five years and beyond. The schedule involves two required public hearings, the first of which was held at the March 13, 2003 City Council meeting. In addition, numerous neighborhood meetings were held as well as individual meetings with neighborhood associations and other special interest groups allowing citizens an opportunity for input. The process identified in the attached schedule establishes these dates in accordance with plan preparation and public comment periods. The planning process has also included review and comments from the Affordable Housing Loan Committee including a joint bus tour with City Council. The Affordable Housing Loan Committee has endorsed the proposed plan. Staff is asking that the

Council approve the consolidated plan and adopt the resolution authorizing the Affordable Housing Loan Committee to execute program activities and to establish fair market value.

Upon being asked about the assistance provided by staff, Mr. Harris explained that when staff can't help people, they send the citizens to professionals in the subject area.

Council Member Glover stated that staff may be inadequate at providing counseling as people in the community may not understand what is happening and don't trust the staff.

Mayor Parrott declared a public hearing and solicited comments from the audience.

Ms. Chris Darden, Chairman of the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation, explained how Congress has cut the funds that are available for affordable housing. Housing counselors are needed to provide housing counseling to West Greenville residents to keep them from being displaced during the process of renters becoming homeowners. Specific renters in need of such services have been identified. A survey of residents has been done and it has been determined that the services are greatly needed. Under HOME funds, only brick and mortar projects can be funded. The Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation requests \$148,625 from Community Development Block grant funds to provide housing counseling services to the residents in the area.

Council Member Craft made a motion for the City Attorney and any others that need to be involved to develop a contractual agreement with the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation and have the Affordable Housing Loan Committee work out the mechanics of how they will work together in that endeavor and bring it back to City Council for consideration.

Council Member Glover stated that this Council has inherited a lot of problems made by other Councils, and this new Council needs to set its own way. It is moving progressively forward and should do all it can to make this process easier. It is not unusual for cities to partner with nonprofits to make a process much easier and make it go forward faster.

Ms. Darden explained how with the Council's support, the organization can get funding from Fannie Mae, etc. The funding cycle for private foundations comes in August, and the group is not in a position to request funding yet. The group will not come before the Council each year making this kind of request.

Council Member Little expressed that he feels the Affordable Housing Loan Committee needs to be involved.

Council Member Council explained how Community Development Block Grant funding has not been utilized at its maximum. This is a way for the City to partner with another organization to assure that funds are utilized to the greatest extent possible.

Mr. Godfrey Bell of the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation explained that they are not asking for citizens to be further taxed. These funds would be Community Development Block Grant funds. Of the funds, \$4.5 million has been allocated for

administration. This group wants to be a partner in helping the citizens of West Greenville. There will be 7,000 affected people by the proposed revitalization plan, and 4,900 will need to have services rendered to them. The average income of the target area is \$20,792, and those citizens can't afford to buy a \$113,000 home. They need to have their credit bought down and their credit rating improved.

Mr. Harris stated that staff has a wonderful relationship with Ms. Darden and knows that she is sincere and earnest and wants to put a community-based group in place that will benefit the citizens of West Greenville. It is desirable to have community-based groups working in partnership with the City. Due to the need for assistance in affordable housing, there can never be too much effort put into this area. The proposal focuses on the City's 45-block revitalization area and increases the effort and impact for housing counseling in this concentrated area. The creation of a new non-profit corporation that will provide additional housing services in Greenville is needed because there are several funding sources available for non-profit organizations. If the funding being requested by the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation is taken from Community Development Block Grant funds, funding for brick and mortar activities will be less. The City is short \$5.8 million for the West Greenville Revitalization Project and that will have to come from somewhere. There are other community development corporations that didn't know there was opportunity to bring an application to the Council through this process. That is a real concern. The Council said it would only fund brick and mortar projects. There is a set aside of funds for CHODOS and there is a process where they could make application and the deadline was February 28. March 3 was the deadline for CDBG. Anyone wanting to participate should have been done by then. If there is a decision made to change the funding cycle, others need to be made aware of it so that they can apply. The best time to do that would be next year. In the interim, staff can work with this group to come up with a project and come back to the Council. The maximum amount that can be used for administrative uses is 20 percent, and it is recommended that the amount not exceed 18 percent.

Mayor Parrott declared the public hearing closed. He stated that he has never seen a person more sincere and with as much love for her community as Chris Darden. He stated that he would like to see the City enter into a contractual relationship with her on a case-by-case basis so that she can get the funds to help the community. He would like to see her corporation meet with the City Attorney to come up with something on a case-by-case basis with some type of revenue that can help this community organization.

Council Member Little stated that the Affordable Housing Loan Committee needs to be involved and the City contract out the services it cannot perform by itself. The staff needs to look at the entire picture. It was suggested that this be presented to the Affordable Housing Loan Committee during a brainstorming session and come up with a game plan.

Council Member Dunn questioned if the Council was suggesting not making a decision about the \$148,000 but rather meeting with the Affordable Housing Loan Committee and Mr. Harris and figure out the best way to use the service and maximize the benefits.

Council Member Council expressed concern about the City not empowering communities to stand on their own two feet.

Council Member Glover stated that she wants people to be able to see results from the revitalization project that the City has been talking about. She, too, read an article that said money was in jeopardy this year. That is a good reason to partner with a nonprofit.

Upon being asked the role of the Affordable Housing Loan Committee, City Manager Davis replied that it is an advisory citizen-based group for housing programs to the City. They look at the program design of the entitlement programs and review loans. The committee was created to work with bonds. The Affordable Housing Loan Committee has been designated as the entity to funnel and coordinate all activities of the city for all the block grants, general obligation bonds and small business loans of the City.

When asked what role they played with the West Greenville Community Development Corporation, City Manager Davis replied that when they made application for CDBG funds, they went through the Affordable Housing Loan Committee for brick and mortar funds and were approved. There has not been an offer of organizational money made available.

The motion made by Council Member Craft for the City Attorney and any others that need to be involved to develop a contractual agreement with the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation and have the Affordable Housing Loan Committee work out the mechanics of how they will work together in that endeavor and bring it back to City Council for consideration was seconded by Council Member Council and carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Council Member Little and seconded by Council Member craft to approve the Consolidated Plan and to adopt the resolution authorizing the Affordable Housing Loan Committee the authority to execute program activities and to establish fair market value. Motion carried unanimously. (Document No. 03-01 and Resolution No. 03-24)

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF SERVICING PITT COUNTY EMS DISTRICT

Chief of Fire/Rescue Roy Spell informed the Council that on May 8, 2003, City staff met with the County Manager and County staff to discuss the county-proposed rescue response boundaries. The proposed changes were to move the Bethel Rescue Station to the North Pitt High School area, move Bell Arthur Rescue Station to the Mazingo Road area, and compress the City's boundaries to the corporate limits of Greenville. The industrial park area would be in the County's EMS response district. According to the Assistant County Manager, it will cost the County approximately \$550,000 to relocate and build two new rescue facilities. Assuming equally divided costs, this plan will cost the taxpayers of Pitt County about \$225,000 to move the Bell Arthur Station only about three miles from its current location and another \$225,000 to move the Bethel location about five minutes away. The County's plan relocates each of the stations farther from their population bases, which are the locations for most of their calls. The response time to calls will be increased. Mutual aid response times will be increased to potential unacceptable levels. At the May 8 meeting, members of the City staff agreed to analyze and present an alternative Pitt County EMS response proposal consisting of:

- Responding to adjacent areas that presently coincide with locations to which we already respond that include portions of Bell Arthur, Pactolus, and Winterville districts. This

proposal helps to reduce response time and improve level of certified care for a larger number of Pitt County citizens.

- We are able to offer improved service in means of quicker response times and a higher concentration of available units to both the eastern and western proposed areas. Examples include but are not limited to the Rams Horn and Whichard Roads intersection, which is centrally located in the proposed eastern area, where we can arrive on the scene of an emergency in 4:51, which is 29% (1:57) faster than the present unit of 6:48. Another example in our proposed western area is the Hwy 13 and Frog Level Road intersection. We can arrive on the scene of this intersection from station 5 in 2:40 which is 63% (4:36) faster than the present unit of 7:16 and 50% (2:39) faster than the adjacent unit of 5:19. In 2002 there was a cluster of calls in the residential areas just south of the Frog Level Road intersection in the Winterville district. We will be able to serve these Pitt County citizens better by means of paramedic level service, improved response times and a higher concentration of available EMS units.
- With five EMS units responding from the City, our demand for mutual aid from other providers would be decreased.
- Save on Pitt County Capital expenditures in the amount of \$550,000 by not having to move and construct new Bethel and Bell Arthur Rescue Squad facilities.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller and seconded by Council Member Craft to endorse an alternative as presented and to request Pitt County Commissioners to reexamine EMS coverage. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF JUNE 12, 2003 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

The Council did a cursory review of the items on the June 12, 2003 City Council Meeting agenda and reviewed the appointments to Boards and Commissions.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Dunn thanked the staff for getting the budget ready.

Council Member Council congratulated the 2003 graduates. She stated that there was a successful high school celebration at the West Greenville Resource Center on Memorial Day. She took a group of graduates to the beach.

Council Member Glover stated that she felt there was good discussion tonight. In order for this Council to be progressive, it is going to have to start setting some rules. Everything changes and the Council needs to do what it takes for the community and the citizens of today. If there are some things the new group feels could be done better than by past Councils, then this Council shouldn't be bound by the old rules. The citizens elected a new Council and showed that they wanted change.

Council Member Craft stated that the Police Community Relations Committee will be meeting in District 4 at Jaycee Park.

Council Member Craft congratulated Ronald Vincent for winning the State Games and for being the Winningest Baseball Coach.

Mayor Parrott stated that Ronald Vincent and the baseball team will be at the Thursday night Council meeting.

Mayor Parrott thanked this Council for working through some difficult issues.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Update on Uptown Bars and Nightclubs Safety Enhancements

City Manager Davis stated that there was a group meeting to discuss certain issues. A smaller group is represented by Fred Mattox. There will be more discussions with them.

Update on Upcoming Public Participation Meetings Regarding the Comprehensive Plan

City Manager Davis stated that there have been public participation meetings regarding the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan Committee wants to take the work that has been done thus far to a public meeting. It should be going to the Planning and Zoning Commission in August and the City Council in September.

Update on Corps of Engineers' Analysis and Study of Green Mill Run

City Manager Davis stated that there has been an evaluation by the Corps of Engineers on work for improvements that could be done in this stream leading to the Tar River (Green Mill Run). After preliminary evaluation, we will know the scope of work and what extend funds may be available to us.

Discussion – Dedication of New GREAT Buses on Wednesday, June 18, at 10:00 AM

City Manager Davis stated that the dedication of the four new GREAT buses will be held on Wednesday, June 18, at 10:00 a.m. at the transfer point on Reade Street.

Tri-City Meeting

City Manager Davis reminded the Council of the Tri-City meeting with the officials of Greenville, Rocky Mount and Wilson, along with the legislators, that will be held in Pinetops at 8:00 a.m. on June 23.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Council Member Council to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda T. Elks, CMC
City Clerk